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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of: Akira MATSUMOTO and Masashi FUKUYAMA

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 28, 2003 under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EV 196642770 US.

Tara L. Preston
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the reference listed Form PTO-1449 is attached.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that this reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen P. Burr
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April 28, 2003

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